



OPASTCO

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July 21, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

***Ex Parte* Presentation**

**RE: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service En Banc Hearing on the
Portability of High-Cost Universal Service Support and the ETC Designation
Process
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch,

At the request of Commission staff, the attached written statement of the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies is being provided in preparation for the *en banc* hearing to be held on July 31, 2003 regarding the portability of high-cost universal service support and the eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation process.

In accordance with FCC rules, this letter and the attached statement is being filed electronically in the above-captioned docket.

Sincerely,

Stuart Polikoff
Director of Government Relations
OPASTCO